

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
 a material source means for supplying a material to be deposited;
 an atomization means for producing a plurality of discrete particles from said material
source means;
 a force application means for propelling said plurality of discrete particles generally toward
a substrate; and
 a collimation means for controlling the direction of flight of said plurality of discrete
particles; and
~~depositing said plurality of discrete particles on said substrate.~~

2. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 additionally comprising means for
sorting said plurality of discrete particles by size from smaller particles.

3. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said sorting and collimation
means comprise one or more virtual impactors.

4. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein said one or more virtual
impactors carry said plurality of discrete particles after sorting.

5. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein two or more virtual impactors
are placed in series.

6. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein one or more virtual impactors
comprise nozzles leading to a virtual impactor later in series.

7. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said force application means
comprises a carrier gas.

8. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said force application means additionally comprises a laser.

9. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said collimation means comprises means for entraining said plurality of particles in a sheath gas.

10. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said entraining means comprises means for annularly surrounding said plurality of particles at an orifice of said collimation means.

11. (previously presented) A method of direct writing of a material, the method comprising the steps of:

supplying the material to be deposited;
atomizing the material to produce a plurality of discrete particles;
applying a force to propel the plurality of discrete particles generally toward a substrate;
collimating the plurality of discrete particles to control the direction of flight of the plurality of discrete particles; and
depositing the plurality of discrete particles on the substrate.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 11 additionally comprising the step of sorting the plurality of discrete particles by size from smaller particles.

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 12 wherein the sorting and collimating steps comprise employing one or more virtual impactors.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 13 wherein the one or more virtual impactors carry the plurality of particles after sorting.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 13 wherein two or more virtual impactors are placed in series.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 15 wherein one or more virtual impactors comprise nozzles leading to a virtual impactor later in series.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the applying step comprises employing a carrier gas.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the applying step additionally comprises employing a laser.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the collimating step comprises entraining the plurality of particles in a sheath gas.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the entraining step comprises annularly surrounding the plurality of particles at an orifice employed in the collimating step.